

Please oppose the attempt by the Consumer Bankers Association to add an exemption for "established business relationships" to the Indiana no-call rule. To allow such an exemption would defeat the purpose of the law, which was to allow citizens to opt for protection against unsolicited phone calls -- not simply calls from telemarketers, but from ALL unsolicited commercial calls.

Allowing an exemption such as has been proposed, unless it could be limited to bona fide emergency situations, would give any business with which someone has an account an unfair, unwarranted, and unwanted right to invade his/her telephone privacy purely for the business's own potential gain -- the very situation the law was supposed to prevent. And, even if the exception were limited to "emergencies", the definition of "emergency" would be so hard to pin down that it would be basically meaningless.

Any weakening of the existing rules would be very much against the public interest and would be (rightfully) judged by the public as a mere caving in to commercial interests that have contributed heavily to the election of the current federal administration.